

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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MORNING PAPERS : WEDNESDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER, 1952

EVENING PAPERS : WEDNESDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER, 1952

BROADCASTING STATIONS : MIDNIGHT TUESDAY, 11TH NOVEMBER, 1952.

STATISTICAL BULLETIN: THE GOLD MINING INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA.

Month of August, 1952.

Particulars of the Australian mine production of gold (i.e. the gold content of minerals produced) in each State, the Northern Territory and Australia as a whole are shown in the following table for the month of August, 1952 in comparison with the month of July, 1952, together with annual totals and monthly averages for the years 1950-51 and 1951-52. The table also shows particulars of the production in Australia of refined gold from material of Australian and Overseas origin for the months of July and August, 1952 (these data are not available prior to January, 1952) and the values (both in Australian currency and sterling) of new gold of Australian origin, calculated from the average monthly price for refined gold (at the refinery).

TABLE I : PRODUCTION OF GOLD : AUSTRALIA

Particulars	Annual Totals		Monthly Averages		Monthly Totals (a)	
	1950-51	1951-52 (a)	1950-51	1951-52 (a)	July 1952	August 1952
	f.oz.	f.oz.	f.oz.	f.oz.	f.oz.	f.oz.
<u>Mine Production of</u>						
<u>Gold (b)</u>						
New South Wales	52,693	40,983	4,391	3,415	4,302	3,689
Victoria	69,704	64,121	5,809	5,343	6,392	5,475
Queensland	76,030	90,594	6,336	7,549	7,628	5,615
South Australia	957	318	60	26	30	28
Western Australia	635,773	664,232	52,981	55,353	69,100	48,505
Tasmania	15,878	14,652	1,323	1,221	(e)1,300	(e)1,300
Northern Territory	40,393	37,711	3,366	3,144	3,237	3,557
<u>AUSTRALIA:</u>	891,428	912,611	74,286	76,051	91,989	68,169
of which -						
Destined for Export						
Overseas (d)	10,662	13,957	889	1,163	1,358	570
Available for						
recovery in Australia	880,766	898,654	73,397	74,888	90,631	67,599
<u>Production of Refined</u>						
<u>Gold in Australia</u>						
Australian Origin						
From Mineral Products						
(o)						
From Scrap	(f)	(f)	(f)	(f)	87,176	84,846
Overseas Origin					1,393	486
From Mineral						
Products (e)						
From Scrap					9,047	8,983
TOTAL:	(f)	(f)	(f)	(f)	80	48
<u>Production of Refined</u>					97,696	94,363
<u>New Gold of Australian</u>						
<u>Origin -</u>						
Quantity (f.oz.) (g)	891,428	896,443	74,286	74,704	87,176	84,846
Value (h) - £A	13,809,735	13,887,426	1,150,811	1,157,286	1,350,504	1,314,409
- £Stg.	11,025,690	11,087,718	918,808	923,977	1,078,242	1,049,424

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Gold content of minerals originating in each State.
 (c) Estimated. (d) Prior to January, 1952, the particulars shown represent the estimated gold content of minerals actually exported overseas. (e) New gold.
 (f) Not available. (g) Prior to January, 1952 the particulars shown represent mine production of gold. (h) Values have been calculated from the average monthly price for refined gold. For December, 1951 and later months the values are based on the price fixed by the Commonwealth Bank and no adjustment has been made for premiums obtained on gold exported.

The mine production of gold in Australia during August, 1952 amounted to 68,169 fine ounces, of which 570 fine ounces were contained in minerals destined for export overseas and 67,599 fine ounces were available for final extraction in Australia. Total production of refined gold during the month was 94,363 fine ounces, comprising 84,846 fine ounces (valued at £11,314,409 or £Stg. 1,049,424) of new gold of Australian origin, 9,031 fine ounces from imported mineral products and scrap and 486 fine ounces of secondary gold recovered from Australian scrap.

The mine output of gold in August, 1952 (68,169 fine ounces) was 23,820 fine ounces (25.9 per cent) less than in July, 1952, 7,882 fine ounces (10.4 per cent) less than average monthly output during the year 1951-52 and 66,891 fine ounces (49.5 per cent) less than average monthly output during 1938-39.

The mine production of gold for the eight months ended August, 1952 (620,215 fine ounces) was 42,304 fine ounces (7.32 per cent) more than the production for the corresponding period of 1951 and 431,305 fine ounces (41.02 per cent) less than the production in the corresponding period of 1939.

In the next table, details of the mine production of gold are shown by months from January, 1948 to August, 1952, in comparison with 1939, during which year the quantity produced was the highest since 1916, when output was 1,665,816 fine ounces. In the same table the refinery production of new gold of Australian origin is shown for the first eight months of 1952.

TABLE II : MONTHLY PRODUCTION OF NEW GOLD : AUSTRALIA
(Fine Ounces)

Month	Mine Production (a)						Refinery Production (b)
	1939	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952(c)	1952(c)
January	113,878	65,066	67,993	79,581	92,463	69,093	74,283
February	121,823	66,445	77,825	63,323	62,698	75,772	68,996
March	134,224	66,250	77,532	65,424	71,496	72,772	78,658
April	127,241	67,203	71,569	63,633	75,038	80,069	71,901
May	133,640	72,430	74,826	69,111	74,529	78,120	75,937
June	147,044	80,077	81,051	80,019	66,758	84,231	74,114
Total for 6 months	777,850	437,471	450,796	421,091	442,982	460,057	443,889
July	133,406	70,667	72,622	59,664	57,500	91,989	87,176
August	140,264	79,294	61,403	82,248	77,429	68,169	84,846
Total for 8 months	1,051,520	587,432	584,821	563,003	577,911	620,215	615,911
September	153,785	71,234	77,640	76,646	82,073		
October	141,100	75,926	76,680	70,140	78,960		
November	145,858	73,889	73,655	73,634	80,726		
December	153,434	77,026	76,262	78,114	75,866		
Total for 6 months	867,847	448,036	438,262	448,446	452,554		
Total for 12 months	1,645,697	885,507	889,058	869,537	895,536		

(a) Gold content of minerals produced in Australia. (b) Production of refined new gold of Australian origin. (c) Subject to revision.

PRICE OF GOLD IN LONDON AND AUSTRALIA

Prices of gold per fine ounce in London and Australia from 1946 to date, compared with 1939, are shown below.

TABLE III : PRICE OF GOLD : LONDON AND AUSTRALIA

Period	Average price per fine ounce		Period	Average price per fine ounce	
	London	Australia (a)		London	Australia (b)
1939	£Stg. 8 12 4	£A. 9 14 4	1951:Dec.	12 8 0	15 9 10
1946-48	8 12 3	10 15 3	1952:Jan.-June	12 8 0	15 9 10
1949(c)	9 14 2	12 3 2	July	12 8 0	15 9 10
1950	12 8 0	15 9 10	Aug.	12 8 0	15 9 10
1951:Jan.-Nov.	12 8 0	15 9 10			

(a) Price paid by Australian Mints. (b) Weighted average price for gold sold on overseas premium markets. (c) The price of gold was raised to £Stg. 12. 8. 0. (London) and £A. 15. 9. 10 (Australia) on 19th September, 1949.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AND CHANGES IN STOCKS OF GOLD

The following tables show particulars of the imports and exports of gold during the months of June, July and August, 1952, and of changes in stocks of gold during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 and the months of June, July and August, 1952.

TABLE IV : IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD : AUSTRALIA

Country of Origin and Destination	June, 1952		July, 1952		August, 1952	
	fine oz.	£A.f.o.b. fine oz.	fine oz.	£A.f.o.b. fine oz.	fine oz.	£A.f.o.b. fine oz.
IMPORTS OF GOLD BAR, DUST, INGOOT, SHEET, ETC. (FINE GOLD CONTENT)						
Australian Territories -						
New Guinea	23,373	361,395	516	7,497	17,084	264,178
Papua	-	-	-	-	-	5
Hong Kong	-	-	-	-	1	17
New Zealand	17,743	274,850	-	-	8,726	135,172
Fiji	7,817	130,831	-	-	16,154	265,334
Importing States -						
New South Wales	30,509	482,329	-	-	33,006	526,409
Victoria	18,424	284,747	516	7,497	8,959	138,297
TOTAL:	48,933	767,076	516	7,497	41,965	664,706

Imports of gold specie - Nil.

EXPORTS OF GOLD BAR, DUST, INGOOT, SHEET, ETC. (FINE GOLD CONTENT)

United Kingdom	-	-	312	4,000	28,478	469,252
New Zealand	-	-	16	298	-	-
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	222,093	3,672,816	20,446	302,241	74,096	1,208,716
Netherlands	4,738	78,237	-	-	3,115	50,723
State of Final Shipment -						
New South Wales	226,831	3,751,053	20,758	306,241	105,689	1,728,761
Victoria	-	-	16	298	-	-
Western Australia	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	226,831	3,751,053	20,774	306,539	105,689	1,728,761

Exports of gold contained in Gold Matte and Specie - Nil.

TABLE V : CHANGES IN STOCKS OF GOLD HELD IN AUSTRALIA

Particulars	1950-51	1951-52(a)	June 1952(a)	July 1952(a)	August 1952(a)
Gold (Other than specie)	f.o.z.	f.o.z.	f.o.z.	f.o.z.	f.o.z.
Exports of gold (b)	19	416,652	226,831	20,774	105,689
Gold content of ores concentrates, etc., exported	10,662	13,257	780	420	240
Total exports of gold	10,681	430,609	227,611	21,194	105,929
Imports of gold (c)	158,661	208,143	48,923	516	41,965
Net imports of gold	147,980	(-222,466)	(-178,676)	(-20,678)	(-63,364)
Mine Production of gold (d)	891,428	912,611	84,231	91,969	66,169
Addition to stocks of gold held in Australia (e)	1,039,408	690,145	(-94,447)	71,311	4,205
Gold Specie	£A	£A	£A	£A	£A
Net Imports	171	-	-	-	-

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Includes gold contained in matte. (c) Excludes gold imported in blister copper and some minor minerals. (d) Gold content of minerals produced in Australia. (e) Includes gold content of mineral products awaiting refining.

(Minus sign (-) denotes net exports of gold or decrease in stocks of gold held in Australia).

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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA. A.C.T. 10TH NOVEMBER, 1952.